

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of the claims replaces all prior versions of the claims in the application.

1-30. (canceled)

31. (currently amended) A glycoconjugate produced by a method comprising:

- (a) providing a heterogenous population of *Neisseria meningitidis* serogroup B capsular oligosaccharide (MenB OS) ~~derivatives~~ in which sialic acid residue N-acetyl groups are replaced with N-acyl groups;
- (b) obtaining a substantially homogenous sized group of MenB OS ~~derivatives~~ from the population of (a) wherein said group of MenB OS ~~derivatives~~ has an average degree of polymerization (Dp) of about 10 to 20;
- (c) covalently attaching a C3-C16 long-chain aliphatic lipid to the nonreducing end of the MenB OS;
- (~~e~~) (d) introducing a reactive group at a the reducing end of the ~~derivatives~~ MenB OS obtained in step (b) to provide single end-activated MenB OS ~~derivatives~~; and
- (~~d~~) (e) covalently attaching the single end-activated MenB OS ~~derivatives~~ to a carrier molecule to provide a MenB OS glycoconjugate comprising substantially homogenous sized MenB OS ~~moieties~~.

32. (currently amended) A glycoconjugate produced by a method comprising:

- (a) providing a heterogenous population of *Neisseria meningitidis* serogroup B capsular oligosaccharide (MenB OS) ~~derivatives~~ in which sialic acid residue N-acetyl groups are replaced with N-propionyl groups;
- (b) obtaining a substantially homogenous sized group of MenB OS ~~derivatives~~ from the population of (a) wherein said MenB OS ~~derivatives~~ have an average degree of polymerization (Dp) of about 12 to 18;

- (c) covalently attaching a C3-C16 long-chain aliphatic lipid to the nonreducing end of the MenB OS;
- (~~e~~) (d) introducing a reactive group at a the reducing end of the ~~derivatives~~ MenB OS obtained in step (b) to provide single end-activated MenB OS ~~derivatives~~; and
- (~~d~~) (e) covalently attaching the single end-activated MenB OS ~~derivatives~~ to a CRM₁₉₇ bacterial toxoid carrier molecule to provide a MenB OS/CRM₁₉₇ toxoid glycoconjugate comprising substantially homogenous sized MenB OS ~~moieties~~.

33-42. (canceled)

43. (previously presented) The glycoconjugate of claim 31, wherein the reactive group introduced in step (c) comprises an active ester group.

44. (currently amended) The glycoconjugate of claim 31, wherein the sialic acid residue N-acetyl groups of the MenB OS ~~derivatives~~ are replaced with N-propionyl groups.

45. (previously presented) The glycoconjugate of claim 44, wherein the carrier molecule is a bacterial toxoid.

46. (previously presented) The glycoconjugate of claim 45, wherein the carrier molecule is a nontoxic mutant bacterial toxoid.

47. (currently amended) The glycoconjugate of claim 31, wherein the MenB OS ~~derivative~~ has an average degree of polymerization (Dp) of about 12 to about 18.

48-49. (canceled)